REMARKS

The application now includes claims 6-10, 16-20 and 22-23, all of which have been amended herein to highlight differences between the claimed invention and the references cited by the Examiner.

Claims 6-10, 16-20, and 22-23 have been rejected as being obvious over a combination of U.S. Patent 6,310,962 to Chung in view of U.S. Patent 6,374,036 to Ryan. This rejection is traversed.

Neither reference teaches a table file as is required in the claims of the present application, where the <u>table file</u> includes an instruction <u>corresponding</u> to <u>bit-data included in an electronic watermark</u>. As such, no combination of Chung and Ryan would make the claimed invention obvious.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of claims 6-10, 16-20, and 22-23 at an early date is requested.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

A provisional petition is hereby made for any extension of time necessary for the continued pendency during the life of this application. Please charge any fees for such provisional petition and any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-2041 (Whitham, Curtis & Christofferson, P.C.).

Respectfully submitted,

Michael E. Whitham

Reg. No. 32,635

Whitham, Curtis & Christofferson, P.C. 11491 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 340 Reston, VA 20190

Tel. (703) 787-9400 Fax. (703) 787-7557

Customer No.: 30743